

## Notes & Queries

### The Lihu'e Place Name on Kaua'i

SUBMITTED BY M. PUAKEA NOGELMEIER

ONE OF THE ARTICLES in the 2012 *Hawaiian Journal of History* is “The Lihu'e Place Name on Kaua'i” by Pat L. Griffin. While researching in the online archive of Hawaiian language newspapers, I found an unsigned editorial on page 1 of the February 12, 1876 edition of *Ka Nupepa Kuokoa* that provides additional information on the place name Lihu'e, Kaua'i, and credits its naming to Kaikio'ewa. I translated several passages from the article, which was titled “Na Hiohiona o Lihue,” or “The General Appearance of Lihue.”

#### Na Hiohiona o Lihue

I ka wa a kamahele i maalo mai ai ia Kauai, he wahi ano kula wale iho no o Lihue, a ma Kalaialamea kahi halepule kahi i ku ai, he wahi hale pili no ia. O Kukuiokahea ma kona aoao komohana akau, ma kai pono o ke alanui, e holo no ka wailele o Wailua i uka, a oia kahua nae i kela manawa ; aole ia i keia wa ; ina e ninau ia o kahi o ka halepule kahiko i ku ai, alaila, e loa ma ka “Hikina akau ae.”

He wahi kiko uuku wale iho o Lihue O Kapuahola, a me Paiaa ka ulu kukui kaulana o ua wahi nei, a o Hulaia ka inoa i hoomahie ia'e e

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ka poe ka ea-ea kako ihi hala e aku nei ! Ua puana ia'e lakou penei ;  
 "Aloha kukui poahaaha o Hulaia !" A pela io no ia kau aku la hoi paha.  
 I ka wa a ka moku e maalo ae ai — ua hooikeike mai ia mau ka hoaka ia  
 oe. I keia wa hoi a kamahale e ike aku nei, aole i kana mai, ka nee ana'e,  
 o ua wahi kiko iki nei a mahuahua loa. Eia kona nani la ! I ke ano ahiahi  
 mua aku nei keokeo a maikai na pua ko, loloa a nunui na ko e ulu ana a  
 ke wili ia nei na ko i keia wa ! Mawaena o na makahiki 24 a'u i ike ai, ua  
 pahola ae la oia a mahuahua loa, no na kumu hea wahi a ka mea ninau.  
 No ua kumu e like me he ano mikiala, a pela wale aku no hoi. Ua 20  
 1/2 paha na tona i keia pule aku nei. Ma ka Poalua ka wili ana o ke ko  
 Dekemaba 7: A e hoounaia ma ka Manuokawai i Honolulu i keia la 13  
 o Dekemaba 1875. O ka hoomaka ana ia ! Alaila o ka mahuahua aku  
 auanei koe. E like no auanei me kona ano kiko mua. Mamua i ka wa o  
 Hon. R. C. Wale, o Hanalei maluna ae, a o Koloa iho, a o Lihue ano !  
 Aole e launa mai o Hanalei aina anuanu.

Aia pono i no o Lihue i kapa ponoia e Kaikioewa i keia manawa, ma  
 ka komohana akau mai ka hale kuai o ka poe nona o Lihue i keia wa.  
 Malaila e ku ana he hale ai no ka poe paahana no Mr W. H. Rice ia, a  
 o ka wai ma ka hulina alo o ka hale wili ko mai o Malamanui no ia mai  
 kona aoao hikina akau mai o ka hale wiliko.

A oia mau wahi la pau, i keia manawa e noho nei, he ko wale no ia  
 wahi apau a koe wale no kahi o Kaikioewa i noho ai. He hale aina ia i  
 keia wa ma kahi hoi i oleloia no na kukui poaha-aha o Hulaia. . . .

When travelers pass through Kauai, Lihue is only plains, and at Kalai-  
 alamea is where a church stood, a thatched structure. Kukuiokahea is  
 on its northwest side, seaward of the road that runs to the waterfall of  
 Wailua, inland. That foundation of that time is not there now. If you ask  
 where the old church stood, you'll find it to "the northeast".

Lihue is merely a small spot of Kapuahola and Paiaa, the famed  
 kukui grove of that place, and Hulaia is the name honored by the cham-  
 pions who praised the hala before! This was recited by them, "Beloved  
 are the circling kukui trees of Hulaia!" And it may have been so in later  
 eras. When ships would pass by, those vistas would be pointed out to  
 you. Nowadays the traveler sees the incredible expansion of that little  
 spot to great size. Here is its beauty! In the still of the last evening, the  
 cane blossoms were a fine white, the cane long and large and cane is  
 being milled now! In the 24 years I've seen it, it has expanded to great  
 size, and for what reasons, one might ask. Because of lively endeavor  
 and such. There were 20 1/2 tons last week. Cane was milled on Tuesday,  
 December 7, and will be sent by the Manuokawai to Honolulu on the

13th of December 1875. And that is the start! It will continue to grow and expand. It will be like its original little spot. Before, in the time of R. C. Wyllie, Hanalei was above, then Koloa, and now Lihue! Hanalei is unmatched as a cold land.

Lihue, which was personally named by Kaikioewa, is at this time, right there on the northwest from the store of the folks who own Lihue now. There stands a dining hall for the laborers of Mr. W. H. Rice, and the water at the front side of the sugar mill is called Malamanui from its range on the northeast side of the mill.

And that entire area, at this point in time, is all sugar cane throughout, excepting where Kaikioewa lived. It is a dining hall now, at the place mentioned, for the encircling kukui groves of Hulaia. . . .